Title : Motion for consideration of the Central Road Fund (Amendment) Bill,2006 (Motion Adopted and Bill Passed).

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Road Fund Act, 2000, be taken into consideration."

Sir, under Section 10 of the Central Road Fund Act, 2000, the Central Government is responsible for allocation of fifty per cent of the cess on high-speed diesel oil for the development and maintenance of national highways, rural roads, state roads and construction of roads over or under railways.

The allocation under section 10 is utilized for provision of all-weather connectivity to rural habitations through Centrally sponsored scheme "Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana", which is being administered by the Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development. Under this, a target has been set to provide road connectivity to all rural habitations having a population of 1000 and above (500 and above in hilly and tribal areas) by 2009. This will require an investment of about Rs.48,000 crore. To bridge the funding gap it has been decided to borrow Rs. 16,500 crore over a period of four years.

The Central Road Fund Act, 2000 does not have any provision for borrowing for rural roads and utilization of the proceeds of future cess for repayment of loans. The Central Government has to take such measures as may be necessary to raise funds for the development of rural roads, and it may use the share of the fund for the repayment of any loan taken for the purpose of development of rural roads in any State or Union territory. Therefore, the Central Road Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2006 seeks to amend the Central Road Fund Act 2000. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Road Fund Act, 2000, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 Amendment of Section 9

Amendment made:

Page 1, *for* lines 6 to 9, *substitute*â€”

'2. In the Central Road Fund Act, 2000 (hereinafter referred to as the Principal Act), in section 9, in sub-section (1), for clause (b), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:â€”

"(b) take such measures as may be necessary to raise funds for the development and maintenance of the national highways and for the development of rural roads:". (3)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause3 was added to the Bill.

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 3, *for* "2006", *substitute* "2007" (2)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 1, *for* "Fifty-seventh", *substitute* "Fifty-eighth". (1)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

TheLong Title was added to the Bi[r24]*ll.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the hon. Minister may move that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

...(*Interruptions*)